

Minutes of the Combined Health & Human Services Committee/Board Meeting

Thursday, December 11, 2003

Committee Members Present: Supervisors Ken Herro (Chair), Sandy Wolff, Jim Jeskewitz, Paul Pronold, Mareth Kipp, Carl Seitz, Alicia Silva.

Board Members Present: Citizen Members Dennis Farrell (Chair), Dick Wutt, Mike O'Brien, and Supervisors Duane Paulson, Duane Stamsta, Vera Stroud. **Absent:** Citizen Members John Guy and JoAnn Weidmann and Supervisors Pat Haukohl and Joe Griffin.

Also Present: Lee Esler, Chief of Staff; Ernie Messinger, Deputy Director of Health & Human Services; and Kathleen Adams, Chair of the Developmental Disabilities Advisory Committee.

The meeting was held at ACAP and a holiday performance by clients and staff of the Adaptive Community Approach Program was given to all in attendance.

COMMITTEE AGENDA ITEMS

Approve Minutes of December 4, 2003

MOTION: Jeskewitz moved, seconded by Silva to approve the minutes of December 4, 2003. Motion carried 7-0.

Herro reported that the Executive Committee meeting on December 8th was a joint meeting with the Finance Committee and Public Works Committee to discuss the Wisconsin River Rail Transit Commission and the release of \$26,000 as Waukesha County's share to maintain the rail lines.

Herro noted that the Finance Committee approved the ordinance to accept approximately \$2.5 million in State and Federal grant funding for Autism treatment services. There was much discussion leading up to this ordinance, but the committee, board and citizens of this county felt it to be in the best interest of the children and families for the county to administer the autism waiver program instead of the state through a contract with a private provider. It is our conclusion that if the county is involved, we will see to it that these children receive the supports necessary to keep them from being institutionalized which would cost the county a lot more money (\$96,000 compared to \$23,000 per child). If this program was run by a private vendor appointed by the State, there would be less motivation to keep kids at home. The Committee voted unanimously for Waukesha County to administer the program.

Messinger noted that the 2003 Quality Assurance Monitoring Review for the Waukesha County COP Waiver program was recently received and stated that the total potential disallowance to the County is \$490.00, which out of a budget of \$8,241,118 is highly successful. This is due to the excellent work that Jack Bodien and his staff have done throughout this year as they have in passed years.

BOARD AGENDA ITEMS

Announcements

The Health and Human Services Committee approved the Mutual Aid Agreement ordinance and the ordinance that supported the Health & Human Services Department's involvement in the Intensive and Post Intensive Autism Treatment Services under the Children's Long Term Supports Waiver at their December 4, 2003 meeting.

Meeting Approvals

MOTION: Duane Stamsta made a motion seconded by Dick Wutt to approve the attendance of Dennis Farrell and Dick Wutt at a Tobacco Free Coalition Work Shop at the Center for Behavioral Health. All voted and the motion carried.

Approval of Medical and Psychological Staff

Dick Wutt as Chair of the Joint Conference Committee asked that the board members approve the recommendations for reappointment and appointment of the medical and psychological staff of the Clinical Services Division.

MOTION: Stamsta moved, seconded by Paulson, to approve the reappointments and appointments of the medical and psychological staff of the Clinical Services Division. All voted and the motion carried.

Future Agenda Items

Dick Wutt suggested touring the Lawrence Center at a future meeting.

Educational Presentation on Kinship Care

Rich Laven, Supervisor of the Shared Services Unit of the Intake and Support Services Division passed out a document on Kinship Care which also included information on Funding and Waiting Lists. Rich provided a background of the program which is a result of the 1997 welfare reform where funding would be available to take care of relative children. The criteria are all non-financial. Payment is \$215.00 per month. Court ordered cases are put on immediately. Our allocation was reduced for 2003, and as a result, we had to initiate a waiting list. However, we received additional monies from the state from those counties who did not use all their allocated funds allowing us to eliminate the waiting list. Kinship Care is much less expensive than foster care which is over \$500/month. Children are placed with a relative if there is a court order because of child abuse and/or neglect or a parent is incarcerated or has AODA issues and is unable to care for the child. The money follows the child. Our 2004 budget will enable us to accommodate 151 children.

Educational Presentation on Crisis Respite Services

Rich Laven also presented on Crisis Respite Services. He passed out a handout regarding the program guidelines. Crisis Respite Services are available to families during times of crisis or severe need. Clients are referred to us from the Child Protective Services Unit who are at risk of abuse or neglect. For example, when a child is at risk of being placed outside of the home, but it is determined that crisis respite care would lower that risk. The fee for this service is based upon ability to pay.

Public Health Division Report

Dennis Farrell requested that the Board add Public Health Division Report to its monthly agenda.

¾ Way Housing Initiative

Mike O'Brien had asked to put the ¾ way house initiative on the monthly agenda. At present the progress they had made fell through due to the substandard conditions and high rents of the property they visited. This item will be put on the agenda for the January board meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:23 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Kathy Leach.

Respectfully submitted,

Alicia Silva

Secretary for the Committee